

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENT

Support for the amendments to claims 20, , 21, 23 and 24 is found in claims as previously presented. No new matter would be added to this application by entry of this amendment.

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 20-24 will remain active in this application.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

The claimed invention is directed to a vaporization system comprising a vaporization promoting element and specific sesquiterpene alcohol compositions consisting essentially of sesquiterpene alcohols wherein the composition is of a purity having no odor above a detectable threshold. Applicants have discovered that at a purity in which impurities are not above a detectable odor, the claimed sesquiterpene alcohols provide efficacy as autonomic nerve regulating agents, suitable for vaporization.

Applicants wish to thank examiners Gembah and Silverman for the helpful and courteous discussion held with their U.S. representative on August 6, 2008. At that time, applicants' U.S. representative argued that neither cedrol nor cedrenol containing compositions having no odor above a detectable odor were suggested by the cited references of record. The following is intended to expand upon the discussion with the examiners.

The rejections of claims 20-22 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Surburg et al. U.S. 6,420,334 and of claim 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of Zaunbrecker et al. U.S. 5,955,034 are respectfully traversed.

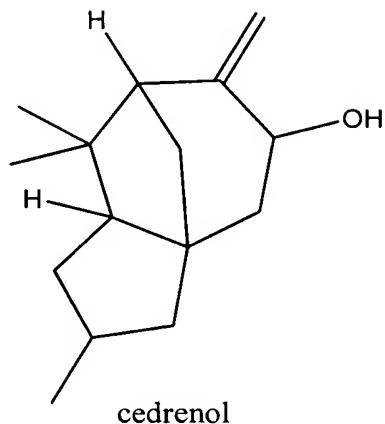
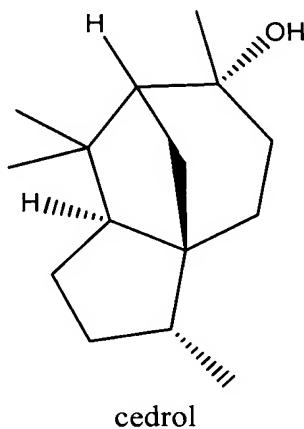
None of the cited references disclose or suggest a vaporization system comprising a composition containing a sesquiterpene alcohol, in which the composition is of a purity having no odor above a detectable threshold.

Surburg et al. has been cited for the disclosure at column 3, line 1 and column 6, lines 2 of compounds which are anticipated by the examiner as having no detectable odor (page 3 of official action).

Contrary to the official action, there is no disclosure in Surburg et al. to suggest cedrol or cedrenol containing compositions having no odor above a detectable threshold.

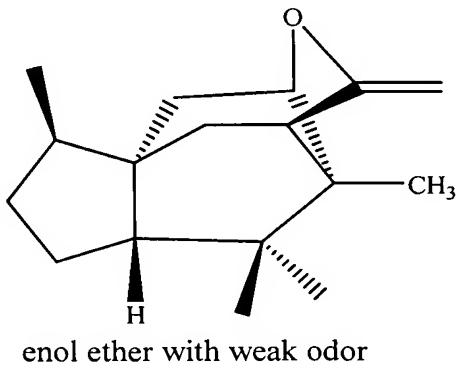
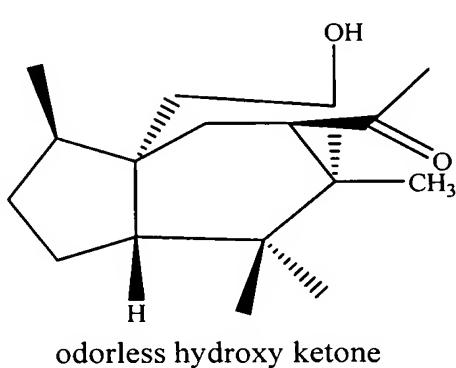
As noted during the discussion with the examiner, Surburg et al. fails to suggest either cedrol or cedrenol containing compositions having no odor above a detectable threshold.

The structures of cedrol and cedrenol are as follows:



These compounds bear a bridged bicyclic [3,2,1] system and a single hydroxyl group.

Surburg et al. describes a hydroxyl ketone, which is derived from  $\alpha$ -cedrene and which is odorless in pure form and an enol ether thereof which has a weak odor which is reminiscent of the sesquiterpene hydrocarbon fraction of cedarwood oil (column 3, lines 1-4).



Neither the hydroxy ketone nor the enol ether are suggestive of the structures of either cedrol or cedrenol. To the contrary, each of the hydroxyl ketone and enol ether have a bridged bicyclic [2,2,2] ring system and two oxygen atoms as compared with the single oxygen atom of cedrol and cedrenol. Accordingly, any description of the hydroxyl ketone having no odor in pure form is not suggestive of a composition containing cedrol or cedrenol

having no odor above a detectable threshold. Accordingly neither the hydroxyl ketone nor the enol ether suggest the claimed vaporization system.

The reference further describes that each of the hydroxyl ketone and enol ether may be converted to a novel tetracyclic acetal, which are suitable as **fragrances**, which can be used in perfuming (column 2, lines 5-6 and column 3, lines 5-46). The acetal fragrances may be combined with **other fragrances** (column 4, lines 14-16) of which cedrol is described (column 6, line 2). Thus, the reference **does not suggest** combining the acetal fragrance with a cedrol composition which **does not have an odor** above detectable threshold, but rather describes using cedrol of a purity such that the cedrol has a separate detectable odor which can **function as a fragrance**. Clearly there is no suggestion of a composition containing cedrol which does not have an odor above a detectable threshold as the cedrol of the reference is used because it has an odor above a detectable odor. None the less, in order to further clarify the claimed invention in terms of the sesquiterpene containing composition being of a purity having no odor above a detectable threshold, applicants have amended to claims to recite that the composition is “consisting essentially of” a sesquiterpene alcohol...” to exclude the presence of compounds in the sesquiterpene alcohol which would not have “no odor above a detectable threshold” as such odiferous compounds would be inconsistent with the basic and novel features of the claimed vaporization system in which vaporization does not produce a detectable odor.

Zaunbrecher et al. have been cited merely to describe the use of cedrol in an air freshener candle. However, the references cites to the use of cedrol as a **fragrance material** (column 3, lines 34-37) and would have a detectable odor, such that there is no suggestion of a cedrol containing composition which does not have an odor above a detectable threshold.

As the cited references fail to disclose or suggest a vaporization system in which a composition consists essentially of specific sesquiterpene alcohols, the composition being of

sufficient purity so as to have no odor above a detectable threshold, the claimed invention is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious over the cited references and accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and 35 U.S.C. §102(a) is respectfully requested.

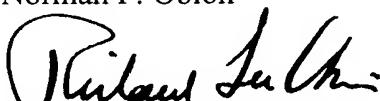
Applicants submit that this application is now in condition for allowance and early identification of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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